

HON. SYLVIA O. HINDS-RADIX Corporation Counsel

THE CITY OF NEW YORK LAW DEPARTMENT

100 CHURCH STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

MICHAEL PESIN-VIROVETS

Senior Counsel
Office: (212) 356-2617
Mobile: (646) 596-0583
Email: mpvirove@law.nyc.gov

July 21, 2023

BY ECF

Honorable Vera M. Scanlon United States District Court Eastern District of New York 225 Cadman Plaza East Brooklyn, NY 11201

Re: Payamps v. City of New York, et al. 22-CV-00563 (AMD) (VMS)

I am a Senior Counsel in the Office of the Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, and the attorney representing defendants the City of New York ("City"), Mayor Bill de Blasio, Commissioner Dermot Shea, NYPD Chief of Department Terence Monahan, Police Officer Daniel Auguste, Police Officer Corey Johnson, and Inspector Jesse Lance (collectively "defendants") in the above-referenced matter. Pursuant to the Court's Individual Practice Rules, Defendants write in response to Plaintiff's July 18, 2023 Motion to Compel, requesting Your Honor "to issue an Order directing the Defendants to produce [to Plaintiff] their conflict waivers, or a statement that none exist." (See ECF No. 75).

As an initial matter, it is Defendants' position that conflict waivers constitute privileged communications, and therefore, Plaintiff is not entitled to same. With respect to Plaintiff's belief that there is a purported conflict in this case that prevents this Office from undertaking Defendant Lance's representation, the undersigned assures the Court that this Office takes conflict issues very seriously and that this case has been fully vetted for any conflicts. Additionally, because conflicts analyses are a continuing obligation, the appropriate checks are being conducted on a continuous basis as necessary.

But should the Court require additional information to address Plaintiff's expressed concern, this Office is happy to provide that information to the Court. However, because that will, in part, require disclosing privileged communications, we request that any inquiry be conducted, or any additional submissions by our Office be filed, *ex parte*.

Defendants thank the Court for its consideration.

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Michael Pesin-Virovets

Senior Counsel

cc: By ECF

Elena Louisa Cohen Cohen Green PLLC Attorney for Plaintiff

Remy Green Cohen & Green Attorney for Plaintiff

Jessica S. Massimi 99 Wall Street, Ste. 1264 New York, NY 10005 Attorney for Plaintiff

Gideon Orion Oliver Attorney at Law 277 Broadway Suite 1501 New York, NY 10007 Attorney for Plaintiff